

MARYLAND STATE ARTS COUNCIL



FISCAL YEAR 2014 ANNUAL REPORT



A MESSAGE FROM

MARTIN O'MALLEY, Governor

Dear Friends,

All across our state, through hundreds of nonprofit arts organizations and programs in communities and schools, nearly 8 million people each year are touched by the arts in Maryland. From festivals and concerts to museums and dramatic performances, the arts abound in Maryland.

The unparalleled quality of life that we enjoy here in Maryland is fueled by the continued prosperity of the arts. Each year, hundreds of nonprofit arts groups in which the Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) invests generate \$48 million in state and local tax revenue and \$1 billion in economic impact and support 12,700 full-time jobs.

The successful programs and initiatives of the MSAC show us that the arts, when leveraged fully, are a statewide asset that advances our communities, educates our children, inspires our people and grows our economy.

Thank you to the many arts organizations that work so hard to advance the cultural richness of our state. I hope that you and your family will continue to discover the excellence and diversity of the arts in Maryland.

Sincerely,

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Dear Friends,

Under the leadership of Governor O'Malley and the Maryland General Assembly, the Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) works with partners around the state to leverage the arts for progress. How do we employ the arts as drivers of creative economies and placemaking? How do we encourage equitable access to the arts statewide, nurture artists and ensure that our students have opportunities to excel creatively?

These questions are important to the people of our state. According to a recent poll, 81% of Marylanders agree "a vibrant arts community makes Maryland a better place to live," 87% want schools to provide more exposure to the arts and 90% want Maryland and its local communities to encourage art and creativity.¹ Strong public support combined with an annual impact of \$1 billion on the state's economy position the arts as invaluable to our people, and our shared prosperity.

Through the core programs of the MSAC, partnerships with arts organizations and programs, local arts councils, artists, communities, schools, teachers, universities and others ensure that our public investment in the arts moves our whole state, and its people, forward. From illustrating principles of mathematics in classrooms to transforming a street corner, convening neighbors around a stage or learning the diverse folkways of our ancestors, the arts empower individuals and communities in a way that no other medium can.

We are pleased to share with you this fiscal year 2014 annual report, a snapshot of the many ways that the MSAC is working to harness the power of the arts, together with partners statewide. We thank them for their many contributions to the creative and economic vitality of Maryland.

Sincerely,

Theresa Colvin, Executive Director

Barbara Bershon, Chair

¹Maryland State Arts Council. (2014). *Statewide Poll: The Arts in Maryland*. OpinionWorks.

A LETTER FROM



Theresa Colvin

THERESA COLVIN, Executive Director



Barbara Bershon

BARBARA BERSHON, Chair



Orfeia, an all-woman vocal ensemble based in Maryland's Capital region, performs at the U.S. Embassy in Sofia, Bulgaria; Baltimore Clayworks' Community Arts Program at the *Clay for All!* satellite studios in Baltimore City.

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STATE OF MARYLAND

MARTIN O'MALLEY, Governor
ANTHONY G. BROWN, Lt. Governor

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DOMINICK E. MURRAY, Secretary | **ROBERT L. WALKER**, Deputy Secretary

DIVISION OF TOURISM, FILM AND THE ARTS

HANNAH LEE BYRON, Assistant Secretary | **BILL PENCEK**, Deputy Assistant Secretary

MARYLAND STATE ARTS COUNCIL

BARBARA BERSHON, Chair | **THERESA COLVIN**, Executive Director



A senior faculty member of Imagination Stage's Early Childhood program works with a young student, photo by Jeremy Rusnock.

OUR MISSION: To encourage and invest in the advancement of the arts for the people of Maryland.

WHO WE ARE

MSAC at a Glance



Since 1967, the Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) has invested in sustainable arts development for the state of Maryland under the authority of the Department of Business and Economic Development, Division of Tourism, Film and the Arts. Our grants and programs strategically position the arts to advance economic development, education and our quality of life statewide.



Thirst and the Martyr by JJ McCracken, 2014 Individual Artist Award recipient (sculpture); As part of Frederick Reads' *Music of Language* series, U.S. Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey signs books after her reading at Weinberg Center for the Arts; Access Art student uses a light box to draw letters for an art project, photo by Marshall Clark.



The Council itself is an appointed body of 17 citizens who serve without salary. Thirteen are named by the governor to three-year terms.

The Senate President and Speaker of the House of Delegates each appoint a legislator and private citizen to serve. MSAC funding comes from an annual appropriation from the state of Maryland, grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and contributions from private, nongovernmental sources.

With 81% of Marylanders agreeing that “a vibrant arts community makes Maryland a better place to live,” the arts are an important priority to our citizens and their quality of life. In turn, Maryland’s investment in the arts has significant economic benefits for the state, including 12,700 full-time jobs, \$48 million in tax revenue and an annual economic impact of \$1 billion.



Maestra Marin Alsop leads the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's OrchKids in a half-time performance at the Ravens/Steelers game, photo by TJ Root, ©Patrick Smith Photography.

“Marylanders overwhelmingly value and engage with the arts, and believe the state should encourage artistic expression and equitable access to the arts.”

–Statewide Poll: The Arts in Maryland, released February 4, 2014.

81% of Marylanders agree:

“A vibrant arts community makes Maryland a better place to live.”

One in three Maryland workers say they employ a creative discipline as part of their work.

2/3 of Marylanders believe
“The state should encourage
and promote artistic expression
and access to the arts.”

Nearly **1/2** of Marylanders
under the age of 30
consider themselves artists.

87% of Marylanders want schools to provide more exposure to the arts.

“Artistic expression keeps me in touch with my cultural identity,” **60% of Marylanders agree.**

Maryland Arts: Public Support,

“Maryland nonprofit arts organizations and programs that receive grants from the MSAC have a powerful economic impact on the state’s economy.”

–Economic Impact of the Arts in Maryland, released November 25, 2013.



Proven Impact

Access the **Statewide Poll: The Arts in Maryland** and the **Economic Impact of the Arts in Maryland** at msac.org/publications.

MARYLAND STATE ARTS COUNCIL

Strategic Plan 2014-2019



“On a five-year basis, the Arts Council pauses to consider the overall vitality of the arts across Maryland. Amidst change, how are the arts positioned to best serve our people? And in turn, how should MSAC programs and leadership respond to the opportunities and challenges faced by artists, educators, organizations and communities?”

–Imagine Maryland: A Renewed Strategic Plan for the Arts 2014-2019, released November 7, 2013.

Our Mission

To encourage and invest in the advancement of the arts for the people of Maryland.

Our Vision

Building upon a tradition of excellence, the Maryland State Arts Council will provide leadership that:

- Supports artists and arts organizations
- Cultivates creativity
- Communicates the value of the arts in shaping our distinctive cultural identities
- Ensures access to arts experiences
- Stimulates creative placemaking that encourages thriving communities

Our Core Values

- Excellence in artistic practice and expression
- Access to the arts and to the Arts Council for every citizen of our state
- Inclusion of diverse voices that reflect the people of Maryland
- Integrity in policy development and program implementation ensuring fairness and equity

Our Approach

- Communicate the public value and impact of the arts for Maryland citizens and communities
- Enhance resilience and effectiveness of artists, arts organizations and the MSAC
- Help arts organizations adapt to changing technologies, demographics and audience participation
- Extend MSAC impact through strategic alliances

Our Core Goals

1. Strengthen Maryland arts organizations
2. Honor and support Maryland artists
3. Cultivate creativity through lifelong arts education
4. Encourage equitable access to artistic experiences statewide
5. Employ the arts as drivers of creative economies and placemaking
6. Advance MSAC’s capacity to serve Maryland citizens and communities

Access the full **Strategic Plan** at msac.org/publications.

The Sweet Heaven Kings perform at the annual Maryland Traditions Folklife Festival at Creative Alliance in Baltimore, photo by Edwin Remsburg.

AT A GLANCE

MSAC Programs

In service to the MSAC's strategic goals, these ongoing programs impact a broad range of individuals, communities and economies across the state.

GRANTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS (GFO) support a broad range of nonprofits, arts programs and units of government such as museums, festivals, galleries and performing arts centers, that enable public access to the arts.

COMMUNITY ARTS DEVELOPMENT (CAD) ensures local arts accessibility with grants to Maryland's 24 local arts councils.

ARTS IN EDUCATION (AiE) supports arts experiences for Maryland students by providing grants for performances and integrated arts workshops in schools, and administering Poetry Out Loud, a national poetry recitation contest.

MARYLAND FOLKLIFE documents, promotes and sustains living traditions through a statewide partnership initiative, Project and Apprenticeship grants and the annual ALTA awards and Maryland Traditions Folklife Festival.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT (A&E) DISTRICTS promote community involvement, tourism and neighborhood revitalization by offering tax-related incentives that attract artists, arts organizations and other creative enterprises to locate within a district.

INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS (IAA) honor and support the creative contributions of Maryland-based artists with annual grants of up to \$6,000.

THE MARYLAND PUBLIC ART INITIATIVE positions communities to gain cultural, social and economic value through public art by making integrated public art enhancements available to state-funded construction and renovation projects, and with project grants to local arts councils.

MARYLAND PRESENTING AND TOURING supports Maryland-based performing artists and presenting arts organizations through the Maryland Presenters Network, Maryland Touring Grants and Maryland Performing Artist Touring Roster.

THE MARYLAND ARTIST REGISTRY is a dynamic, online platform that connects artists of all disciplines with curators, organizations, businesses, educational facilities and others that seek or offer art or arts services.



GRANTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS Member Opening at the Baltimore Museum of Art with *The Three Rings* in the foreground and An-My Lê photographs in the background, photo by Maximilian Franz.

MARYLAND FOLKLIFE Master boatbuilder Michael Vlahovich at the Maryland Traditions Folklife Festival, photo by Edwin Remsburg.

THE MARYLAND PUBLIC ART INITIATIVE Artist rendering of *Forum* by Thomas Sayre at University of Maryland Baltimore County.

COMMUNITY ARTS DEVELOPMENT (CAD) *Chapel Oak Vessel* by Foon Sham as part of *ARTsites 2014*, a year-long public art exhibit of the Howard County Arts Council.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT (A&E) DISTRICTS Bolivian dance in Silver Spring A&E District, photo by Ken Stanek.

MARYLAND PRESENTING AND TOURING Eric Byrd Trio, photo by Jah Images.

ARTS IN EDUCATION (AIE) Young Audiences/Arts for Learning lead a screen painting residency program with Baltimore Design School students.

INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS (IAA) *The Last People* by Stephen Hendee, who received a 2014 IAA (sculpture).

THE MARYLAND ARTIST REGISTRY Detail from *Tie Me Up, Tie Me Down* by Jennie Mullins.

GRANTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS

Strengthening Maryland's Arts Infrastructure



From large, internationally renowned institutions to local gems of the community, Maryland invests in organizations and programs that uplift, inspire and enrich our citizens through the boundless power of the arts.

GRANTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS (GFO) support a sustainable arts infrastructure that anchors communities, educates children, stimulates business activity and supports jobs. Organizations eligible to receive unrestricted operating support through a GFO award include not-for-profit and tax-exempt, as well as units of government.

Grants for Organizations are awarded on the basis of artistic merit, organizational effectiveness and service to the community. Awardees are selected after thorough evaluation by peer advisory panels comprising arts professionals.



Facing page: The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center and the University of Maryland School of Music present Common Tone, a series that connects young artists with the community, photo by Nguyen Khoi Nguyen. This page: Jubilee Arts helps Devonn, age 9, create his own “Water Boy” super hero; Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture hosts swing dancers in the Bumper Car Pavilion in Glen Echo Park, photo by Frank D. Warner; The Avalon Theatre Presents Tianjin Children's Art Troupe.

The MSAC awarded Grants for Organizations to 254 arts organizations and programs across the state totaling **\$10,311,290**.

Of the **7.7 million**
people who attended the events, classes and workshops of the
Maryland State Arts Council's GFO grant recipients, 4.8 million attended free.²

²Maryland State Arts Council. (2013). *Economic Impact of the Arts in Maryland*. Regional Economics Studies Institute.

Promoting Statewide Access to the Arts

Understanding community needs, local arts councils invest strategically in projects, initiatives and organizations that have the greatest local impact.

COMMUNITY ARTS DEVELOPMENT (CAD) provides funding and technical assistance to each of Maryland's 23 County Arts Councils and the Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts (BOPA), ensuring that MSAC support impacts the entire state. Funds re-granted by County Arts Councils to local arts organizations and programs serve artists, schools and audiences. Here are some examples:

STRATEGIC IMPACT GRANTS

Anne Arundel County Arts Council

The Anne Arundel County Arts Council (AACAC) wanted its local arts organizations to reach even further. "Our annual grants provide general operating support," said AACAC Senior Program Manager Brenda Collins. "But with increased funding this year, our Board decided to challenge Anne Arundel County arts organizations to imagine projects that would show a true impact in the community."

The first AACAC Strategic Impact Grants went to nine organizations for a total of \$60,000 awarded. The grants included \$10,000 to Historic Londontown Gardens for a Sound and Sensory Garden, \$5,000 to Annapolis Maritime Museum for a documentary film and \$3,500 to The Mitchell Gallery

of St. John's College to present works by Annapolis Senior High School student-artists in a professional museum setting.

Of the student exhibit, Linda Edinburg, curatorial assistant at The Mitchell Gallery said, "I'm astounded by the students' talent and creativity, and also the subject matter—it's very much in the moment, and very much a reflection of the students' lives."

According to Edinburg, the exhibit and its opening reception helped young artists to imagine the professional potential of their work.

"When you have an audience and see your piece in lighting that's really dedicated and focused, there's an ambiance about it," she said. "I think it was more than they expected, which was nice."



The MSAC awarded a total of

\$2,404,802

in Community Arts Development grants to the 23 County Arts Councils and the BOPA.

BARN QUILT TRAIL

Carroll County Arts Council

As with any folk or traditional art, quilting is an artistic and cultural expression of the people, places and history that have supported the practice since Egyptian times. In the U.S., quilting was—and continues to be—a communal and narrative art form, holding within its patterns the stories of African-American slaves, the Amish, early Colonial settlers and others.

Embracing Carroll County's agricultural history, scenic landscapes and crafting traditions, the Carroll County Arts Council (CCAC) partnered with area volunteers, the County's Economic Development, Parks & Recreation and Tourism Departments and others to create and install 12 unique barn quilts throughout the county.

CCAC Executive Director Sandy Oxx says that the trail is a way of dispersing art throughout a largely rural community in a connected way.

"We went with a project that could be spread out throughout the County, and its beautiful, unspoiled farm land—Carroll County's pride and joy."

The trail, Oxx says, was inspired by neighboring Garrett County's Quilt Barn Trail and the larger national grassroots movement that originated in Adams County, Ohio in 2001. Today, in about 40 states, the colorful trails attract visitors to explore scenic farmland, stopping at shops, restaurants and produce stands along the way.



CHARLES SUMNER POST #25, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

Kent County Arts Council

In 1882, 21 Union Veterans of the Civil War's U.S. Colored Troops (U.S.C.T.) regimen established Charles Sumner Post #25 in Chestertown, Maryland. It was one of 8,600 posts of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), a fraternal group for Union Veterans and the only integrated social organization in 19th-century America.

Today, it is one of just two remaining GAR Halls in the entire country. The Post transitioned, during the 20th century, to a center of African American life, a place for civic gatherings, ceremonies and concerts, including those of Ella Fitzgerald and Chick Webb. But by 1985, the

crumbling building sat vacant in the historically black neighborhood of Scotts Point.

Recognizing the deep significance of Post #25, the Kent County Arts Council (KKAC) led efforts to revive the space



with partners that included Main Street Historic Chestertown, the Kent County Department of Tourism and Economic Development, Preservation Incorporated, Washington College and the Town of Chestertown.

At a June 21 ribbon-cutting, the completely renovated GAR Post #25, Inc. opened for concerts, readings, lectures and exhibits. The space reminds us of the U.S. Colored Troops' great sacrifice, and the spirit of freedom and unity in which their Post was formed.

Cultivating Innovative Thinkers

The arts foster young imaginations and encourage success in school and later in the workforce.



ARTS IN EDUCATION (AIE) positions the arts as a tool for learning in classrooms statewide by providing professional development for teaching artists, and funding for the schools that hire them to perform or conduct integrated workshops.

The MSAC maintains two online rosters of artists who are especially qualified to perform or lead workshops in schools. Musicians, dancers and other performing artists who visit schools to perform are listed on the Visiting Performers Roster. The Artist-in-Residence Roster features artists who lead hands-on arts workshops—often with a small core group of students—for up to several weeks.

Once the teacher selects a roster artist, a grant from the MSAC helps reduce the cost of the performance or workshop, making quality arts exposure within the reach of Maryland schools.

TRAINING FOR TEACHERS

The MSAC invests in professional development for teachers who want to integrate the arts into their curricula. This year, the MSAC provided grants of \$23,060 to The Maryland Artist/Teacher Institute (MATI) and the Arts Every Day Schools Arts Integration Institute that helped 159 Maryland teachers enhance student learning through the arts.

A grant of \$20,000 to the Teaching Artist Institute (TAI), a program of Young Audience for Learning, funded professional advancement opportunities for 18 artists who specialize in arts education.

**Through the Arts in Education program,
the MSAC awarded grants of**

\$661,659

**that supported 6,023 performances and workshops
for 193,680 students in 528 Maryland schools.**

This page: Art from a Black Cherry Puppet Theater residency at Kemptown Elementary School in Frederick County, photo by Jennifer Strunge; Young Audiences/Arts for Learning musician/songwriter Alden Phelps helps students create original song parodies about the environment; Magical Experiences Arts Company performs for students with disabilities at the Maryland School for the Blind in Baltimore County. Facing page: 2014 Maryland Poetry Out Loud Champion Akash Menon; 2014 Maryland Poetry Out Loud student finalists with MSAC staff and MSAC Chair, Barbara Bershon.

POETRY OUT LOUD

Mastering the Artistry of Words



The words of great poets literally come to life in Poetry Out Loud (POL), a literary arts program created by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. Through MSAC support, students across Maryland are enriched by this national arts education program that encourages the mastery of great poetry through memorization, performance and competition.

In Maryland, POL competition begins at the school level, with students advancing to county, regional and state competitions. A panel of judges score students' performances in categories such as level of difficulty, dramatic appropriateness, voice and articulation, and overall performance.

Akash Menon, a junior at Urbana High School in Frederick County, placed first in the state final competition, held March 15 at Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) in Baltimore. His prize was \$200 and a trip to Washington, D.C. to represent Maryland at the POL National Finals.

More than **15,000** Maryland students in 16 counties and 61 schools participated in Poetry Out Loud.

MARYLAND FOLKLIFE

Celebrating Traditional Arts

The Maryland Folklife program shines a light on traditional arts and cultures that tell deep and diverse stories of the people and places of our state.



Master Cumbia dancer Liliana Robeson with her dance troupe at the Maryland Traditions Folklife Festival.

MARYLAND TRADITIONS, the program's chief initiative, awards annual Apprenticeship and Project grants to Maryland-based traditional artists and arts organizations. Apprenticeship Grants fund collaborations between master artists and their students, while Project Grants fund Maryland organizations whose research or programs enrich the cultural heritage of our state.



Apprenticeship Grants of \$20,000 were awarded to 10 Master/Apprentice teams. Project grants to nine organizations totaled \$30,688.

Maryland Traditions' Achievement in Living Traditions and Arts (ALTA) award is presented annually to a Maryland Person, Place and Tradition. A public awards ceremony honored the 2014 recipients: Wally Yater, Blacksmith (Washington County); the Piscataway Homelands (Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's Counties); and the Oyster Fritters of the Sharptown Fireman's Carnival (Wicomico County).

The annual Maryland Traditions Folklife Festival, held June 14, 2014 at Baltimore's Creative Alliance, showcased the diversity and statewide impact of Maryland Traditions grants,

partnerships and collaborations. The free celebration brought together a range of traditional artists from across the state to demonstrate their art, music, craft or tradition.

Special thanks to Maryland Traditions' dynamic partner organizations: Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, Frostburg State University, National Council for the Traditional Arts, University of Maryland Baltimore County and Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art.

A GIFT FOR THE AGES

Folklife Archive Opens at UMBC

At an April 21 ceremony at University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), the MSAC's Folklife Program permanently moved its archive to UMBC's Albin O. Kuhn Library and Gallery, where it is open to the public.

Dating as far back as the 1960s, stories of Chesapeake Bay watermen and Baltimore City arrangers, photos of Baltimore screen painters and Native American beadworkers, recordings of Chuck Brown and Ola Belle Reed and accounts of first- and second-generation immigrants to Maryland are among the rich and varied contents of the archive.

Accepting the archive, UMBC President Freeman Hrabowski shared one of its many stories—that of classical musician Ahmad Borhani, who fled his native Iran in the wake of the Ayatollah Khomeini's rise to power.

"His arrival in Baltimore confronted him with a reality totally at odds with what the Iranian state had

told him about the USA," said Hrabowski, quoting Borhani:

'I hated to come to the United States...I didn't know that Americans might even work! I came here, and said, my God, this country is made of work! It was amazing for me, how people work in this country... it was a big shock for what I had in my mind about the United States...if anybody works like Americans, their country will become America.'

"This story highlights the important role of culture in enhancing our understanding of the role of place and the meaning of work," said Hrabowski. "We are delighted to make stories like this available to the public."



Top left: At the Maryland Traditions Folklife Festival, artist Carla Tomaszewski introduces U.S. Senator Barbara Mikulski to her traditional art of pisanki, which uses dyes, batik, etching and painting to create designs on eggshells. Above: Ahmed Borhani (center) performs Persian classical music in Baltimore.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS

Building Vibrant Communities



River Concert Series at St. Mary's College of Maryland, photo courtesy of St. Mary's County Arts Council; *School House Rock* student performance at Pocomoke High School, photo courtesy of Worcester County Arts Council; A viewer admires the Queen Anne's County Arts Council's juried *Summer!* exhibit.

Maryland A&E Districts: Annapolis, Bel Air, Berlin, Bethesda, Bromo Tower, Cambridge, Cumberland, Denton, Elkton, Frederick, Frostburg, Gateway, Hagerstown, Havre de Grace, Highlandtown, Historic Stevensville, Leonardtown, Salisbury, Silver Spring, Snow Hill, Station North, Wheaton

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICTS

position Maryland communities small and large to express their distinctive heritage and rich cultural identities through the arts.

Many of these unique places form a network of 22 Arts & Entertainment (A&E) Districts. The districts are designated by the state, and offer tax incentives that attract artists and other creative enterprises to take root and grow.

More than ten years after the Maryland State Arts Council launched the A&E District program as one of the nation's first, its impact is supported by not only visible revitalization but also a significant economic impact.



Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission

"For helping build economic potential in communities across Maryland by supporting the arts."

The most recent study shows that Maryland A&E Districts collectively supported an estimated 5,144 new jobs that paid \$149 million in wages. During that same period, new jobs combined with A&E District festivals and events supported more than \$458 million in state GDP and \$36 million in state and local tax revenue.

At a May 15 ceremony in Annapolis, Governor Martin O'Malley, joined by House Speaker Busch and Senate President Miller, signed into law a bill that exempts qualifying A&E District artists from paying income tax on art created and sold within any Maryland A&E District.

2014 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Hagerstown Arts & Entertainment District

At the annual meeting of the A&E District Managers, the MSAC presented Hagerstown A&E District with its annual Outstanding Achievement Award. The award recognizes Hagerstown's support of downtown revitalization and economic vitality through public and private partnerships and an array of engaging and diverse arts events and festivals.



The 19th Annual Western Maryland Blues Fest in Hagerstown Arts & Entertainment District, photo by Allan Grossman Photography.

"Hagerstown A&E District is a vibrant community for residents and an exciting destination for visitors and tourists alike," said Hannah Byron, Assistant Secretary for Tourism, Film and the Arts at the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development. "During 2013, the district made great strides. Barbara Ingram School for the Arts graduated its first class, the Washington County Arts Council anchored its office and gallery shop within the District, and the City of Hagerstown created affordable artist housing and gallery space."

Five new festivals or events and eight new businesses joined Hagerstown A&E District in 2013, which helped attract an estimated 250,000 visitors to an array of museums, arts organizations, galleries and performance venues.

"We want to congratulate the Hagerstown A&E Management Board, all of the arts organizations and City staff who work throughout the year to make the Hagerstown A&E District a premier destination for residents and visitors," said Hagerstown Mayor David Gysberts.

INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS

Advancing Artistic Excellence

Artists are the lifeblood of Maryland's creative vitality. Their works and visions inspire, educate and entertain diverse populations of residents and visitors in communities statewide.

INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS (IAA)

recognize the important role of the artist with grants of up to \$6,000 that help Maryland artists advance their careers.

The highly competitive juried awards are presented on the basis of artistic excellence alone within 18 artistic categories that are separated into three groups and awarded triennially.

More than 200 guests attended an open reception at the American Visionary Art Museum on May 19, where awards totaling \$249,000 were presented to 89 Maryland-based Choreographers, Classical and World Music Composers, Classical and World Music Solo Performers, Poets, Sculptors and Solo Dance Performers.

The evening featured the performance of an original composition by Amadou Kouyate, Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer—all past recipients of the IAA for musical composition. Akash Menon, the 2014 Maryland Poetry Out Loud champion, recited his winning selection of poems, including "Fishing on the Susquehanna in July," by former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins.

This page: *Pecking Order* by Lindsay Pichaske, 2014 IAA recipient (sculpture); Choreography by Christopher K. Morgan, 2014 IAA recipient (choreography), photo by Robert Gullen; 2014 IAA ceremony at the American Visionary Art Museum. Facing page: Clare Banks, 2014 IAA recipient (poetry).



SCHEDULE OF FUTURE AWARDS BY YEAR

2015

Crafts
Non-Classical Music Composition
Non-Classical Music Solo Performance
Photography
Playwriting

2016

Fiction
Media/Digital/Electronic Arts
Painting
Theater Solo Performance
Works on Paper

2017

Choreography
Classical Music Composition
Classical Music Solo Performance
Poetry
Sculpture
Solo Dance Performance
World Music Composition
World Music Solo Performance

2014 INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARD RECIPIENT
CLARE BANKS, POETRY

Clare Banks' poems are personal in that they are populated by the people, things and experiences in and of her world. But, the poet says, they are not autobiographical.



Instead, she tries to make her poems universal on some level, taking what she knows—or does not know—and attempting to communicate to readers in ways that affect, challenge or make some part of the world more fully visible. For her, a poem doesn't have to be personal to be engaging—it just needs to matter to readers. "The poem must have something at stake with which its readers can connect," Banks says.

Illness and mortality, liminal spaces and ideas about knowing and not knowing are themes that Banks explores in her writing. Her poetry, during the past several years, has involved the death of her father, her own vascular disease, her children and the natural world—in particular, a field near her house that reoccurs as a setting for both dreams of her father and her children's soccer games.

Poetic structure, Banks says, with its regular stanzas and rhythm, can lend balance to the expression of such deeply personal subjects. Of "Capture, Escape," an original sonnet sequence recently published in the *Santa Clara Review*, she says, "The sonnet form allowed me to rely on the symbolic, which seemed to provide enough distance from the subject of a serious illness to write about it."

Banks received her MFA in poetry from the University of Maryland. In 2000, she became assistant editor of *Smartish Pace*, a Maryland-based poetry magazine founded by Stephen Reichert, her husband. "The magazine," Banks says, "is an eclectic venue for local, national and international poets writing in a variety of ways, including translations, formal poetry and experimental work." As an editor, she gravitates toward poems that are powerful, ambitious and rich with surprising metaphor.

With her \$6,000 Individual Artist Award from the Maryland State Arts Council, Clare Banks attended the Squaw Valley Writers Conference, joining renowned poets such as Robert Hass, C.D. Wright, Matthew Zapruder and others. During the week in California, she created one new poem a day. The resulting body of new work, she says, exploded old habits. "The conference allowed me to write with a different take on my voice, a different kind of idiom, and syntax. More importantly, I was able to internalize the idea that I can break out of my habits and write well in new ways."

Highly competitive awards totaling  **were granted to 89 Maryland artists.**

MARYLAND PRESENTING AND TOURING

Sparkling Collaboration

The Maryland Presenting and Touring program supports a rich and artistically diverse network of Maryland professional performing arts organizations, artists and agents.



MARYLAND PRESENTERS NETWORK

Through statewide and regional gatherings, online peer communications tools and the Maryland Touring Grant, the MSAC provides professional development, collaboration and networking opportunities to this professional consortium of Maryland-based presenting organizations.

MARYLAND TOURING GRANT

The MSAC's Maryland Touring Grant is awarded to Maryland-based organizations that present performing arts. The grant supports collaboration between Maryland performing artists and Maryland presenting arts organizations by funding a performance by one or more artists on the MSAC's Maryland Performing Artist Touring Roster.

MARYLAND PERFORMING ARTIST TOURING ROSTER

Maryland-based performing artists apply to be on the roster and are selected through a competitive peer review process. Inclusion on the Touring Roster opens a number of professional development and performance opportunities, including workshops, showcases and presentations funded by the Maryland Touring Grant.

MARYLAND TOURING ARTIST

Naoko Maeshiba

A Japanese native living in Baltimore since 2004, Naoko Maeshiba is an associate professor at Towson University, and a member of the MSAC's Maryland Performing Artist Touring Roster. Through a Maryland Touring Grant to Baltimore Theatre Project, Maeshiba performed her original piece, *Twilight Station*, in early 2014. The piece was commissioned especially for Quest

Visual Theatre's Wings Company, an ensemble of deaf, hard of hearing and hearing performers who receive training in visual theatre and educational methodology.

MSAC: What originally interested you in the art of dance and what keeps you interested now?

NM: I was engaged in rigorous sport for many years. Then, much later, I discovered the art of dance in graduate school, and was astounded that the body can express such complex ideas, feelings and sensations. I found tremendous joy in this art form. I'm in awe of its power.

MSAC: You practice under the name "Kibism." What does that word mean and how does it relate to your work or aspirations?

NM: "Kibi" in Japanese means "delicate inner workings which might not appear on the surface." It also means "strange beauty." This is the foundation for all my work. I aspire to offer a theatrical experience that taps into the different states of consciousness and opens multiple channels of communication. My audience might not understand it in their heads, but they will experience it intuitively through a more universal language.

**18 Maryland organizations
were awarded grants totaling**

\$46,330

**to present performances
by 22 Maryland artists.**



MSAC: A 2014, MSAC Maryland Touring Grant helped fund the performance of your original piece *Twilight Station* at Baltimore Theatre Project as part of QuestFest. What is the piece about?

NM: It follows the journey of three individuals through three dimensions of time and space. The first part is the group's encounter in the everyday life, the second part happens in their dreams and the last part trips from

the ancient to the future. In grasping the individual life's moments through multiple frames, I was hoping that we get to experience various aspects of these three human beings.

MSAC: Did you approach the process of creating *Twilight Station* differently, since it was commissioned specifically for performers who are deaf or hard of hearing?

NM: I was perhaps more aware of how to connect with the performers and with the audience. I paid attention to the different ways that the performers were responding to the same exercise and tried to incorporate the uniqueness of each into the performance. In terms of the audience, we wanted to make sure that the deaf audience could feel the sound. We placed the speakers on the ground to strengthen the base component.

MSAC: You've been quoted saying, "I want ten percent (of my theatre) happening on stage and ninety percent happening in the mind of the audience." Does dance theatre ask more from its audiences than other art forms?

NM: I think anything that's not based on the clear-cut narrative would ask more from its audiences. I think the challenging part is that it asks for a very serious encounter between the performers and the audience. The performer is communicating with the audience in a specific way through a language that doesn't have a name. The audience has to allow that to reach the inside of them. It is a self-reflective journey. A joyful one, I hope.

Facing page: Contemporary Arts, Inc. presents a concert in celebration of Black History Month with John Lamkin III, drums; Blake Meister, bass; Carl Grubbs, alto sax; Larry Willis, keyboard; and Rene McLean, tenor sax, photo by Richard A. Smith III. This page: Scene from Naoko Maeshiba's *Twilight Station*, photo by Zachary Z. Handler and courtesy of Quest Visual Theatre.

MARYLAND PUBLIC ART INITIATIVE

Enhancing Public Spaces

Maryland communities are positioned to gain cultural, social and economic value through public art. And, as a distinguishing part of our public history and evolving culture, public art reflects and reveals our society, adds interest to our cities and uniqueness to our communities.



THE MARYLAND PUBLIC ART INITIATIVE, with support from the Maryland Commission on Public Art and other statewide partners, was passed by the Maryland General Assembly and signed by Governor O'Malley in 2013.

The law makes integrated public art enhancements available to state-funded construction and renovation projects, with intent to advance the public art landscape statewide.

A sculpture by Thomas Sayre at University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) represents the MSAC's first public art collaboration following the passage of the Maryland Public Art Initiative. The piece, provisionally titled

Forum, creates a versatile public space that is "part classroom, part stage and part informal living room where all people can be beckoned from afar, enter and engage." *Forum* is expected to be unveiled in October 2014.

The Maryland State Arts Council will continue to embrace public art as an ongoing part of its strategic vision to support placemaking, community-building and tourism—and the economic development that accompanies those activities.

PUBLIC ART FOR THE COMMUNITY

Public Art Project Grants

Public Art Project grants support and encourage the implementation of public art at the community level through matching grants that are available to Maryland's 24 local arts councils. that support the permanent installation of art in public spaces.

The works can include, but are not limited to, murals, sculpture and functional art such as benches or bike racks; streetscape improvements such as sidewalks or plazas; and signage. A wide variety of media are considered, including mixed-media.



The Allegany Arts Council, the Baltimore Commission on Arts and Sciences and the Washington County Arts Council were awarded Public Art Project grants totaling

\$14,500

for projects that will be completed in fiscal year 2015.

Facing page: Rendering by artist Thomas Sayre of his public art piece, *Forum*, to be installed at University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

This page: Artist Paul Rhymer with his maquette of *The Fishing Lessons*, an MSAC-supported Public Art Project to be installed at City Park in Hagerstown, photo by Eric Hastings.

MARYLAND ARTIST REGISTRY

www.msac.org/artist-registry

In fiscal year 2014, the MSAC launched its new Maryland Artist Registry, a dynamic online catalogue of artists in Maryland.

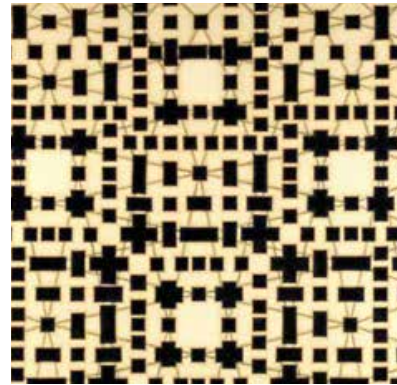
Previously known as the “Visual Artist Resource Center,” the redesigned Maryland Artist Registry has expanded to support a variety of artistic mediums, including music, video and literary arts. By design, the Registry connects artists with curators, buyers, organizations, businesses and others. All Maryland artists are invited to join the Maryland Artist Registry, which is supported by the Maryland State Arts Council and administered by Maryland Art Place (MAP).



LANIA D'AGOSTINO



LINDSAY PICHASKE



WC RICHARDSON



ZACHARY THORNTON



CAROL MILLER FROST



KATIE MILLER



JENNIFER BISHOP



JOHN BOHL



AREEN LIN



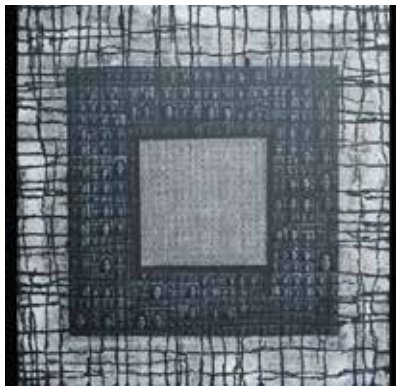
JINCHUL KIM



JORDAN KASEY



JOHN HERNDON



SHANTHI CHANDRASEKAR



EMILY C-D



GEOFFREY GRACE



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BETH HOECKEL



VINCENT CARNEY



EUGENE YOUNG



SHAWN HUTKO



JIM BURGER



BENJAMIN ANDREW



LESLIE SHELLOW

MARYLAND STATE ARTS COUNCIL



MSAC Financial Statement

REVENUES

General Funds Appropriation.....	\$15,418,982
Federal Funds	
Basic State Plan Component	\$533,100
Arts Education Component	\$28,700
Underserved Communities Component.....	\$75,000
Poetry Out Loud.....	\$17,500
Maryland Traditions Program	\$38,800
Special/Other Funds	
Artists in Education Program	
FY 2014 Revenue	\$281,134
Prior Year Deferrals	\$113,345
TOTAL REVENUES.....	\$16,506,561

EXPENDITURES

Grants to Organizations	\$10,688,898
Community Arts Development Program.....	\$2,404,802
Arts in Education Program.....	\$725,962
Individual Artists Award Program.....	\$249,000
Visual Arts Resource Center	\$30,000
Maryland Traditions Program	\$192,167
Administrative	\$2,215,732
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$16,506,561



Annapolis Opera's 2014 Children's Opera, *The Magic Flute*, a joint production with Towson University's Opera in a Can, photo by Web Wright.



The Lyric presents *The Wizard of Oz*, photo by Donoghue Photography; Evergreen Museum & Library of Johns Hopkins University presents *Crossing the Line: The Art of Rosemary Feit Covey*, March 9–June 29, 2014, photo by Will Kirk; Misako Ballet performs *Genroku Dance Beneath Cherry Blossoms*.

Allegany

Arts & Entertainment Technical Assistance	\$5,000
Arts in Education	\$275
Community Arts Development	\$93,205
Grants for Organizations	\$39,000
Maryland Touring Grant	\$2,200
Maryland Traditions	\$17,000
Public Art Program	\$5,000

ALLEGANY TOTAL **\$161,680**

Anne Arundel

Arts in Education	\$23,897
Community Arts Development	\$112,676
Grants for Organizations	\$403,402
Individual Artist Awards	\$2,000
Maryland Touring Grant	\$2,000
Maryland Traditions	\$500

ANNE ARUNDEL TOTAL **\$544,475**

Baltimore City

Arts in Education	\$294,893
Community Arts Development	\$115,572
Grants for Organizations	\$5,644,998
Individual Artist Awards	\$83,000
Maryland Touring Grant	\$10,500
Maryland Traditions	\$55,432

BALTIMORE CITY TOTAL **\$6,204,394**

Baltimore County

Arts in Education	\$23,185
Community Arts Development	\$123,586
Grants for Organizations	\$177,341
Individual Artist Awards	\$24,000
Maryland Touring Grant	\$2,600
Maryland Traditions	\$3,800
Public Art Program	\$4,500

BALTIMORE COUNTY TOTAL **\$359,012**

Calvert

Community Arts Development	\$93,843
Maryland Touring Grant	\$3,500

CALVERT TOTAL **\$97,343**

Caroline

Community Arts Development	\$91,517
Maryland Touring Grant	\$1,180

CAROLINE TOTAL **\$92,697**



Detail of *Daylight*, a mural created by male inmates at Montgomery County Correctional Facility and donated to Montgomery County Coalition for the Homeless during Class Act Arts' Project Youth ArtReach, photo by Dan Gross; Chesapeake Shakespeare Company presents *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, photo by Teresa Castracane; Stevenson University presents the exhibit *3 Songs, No Flash*, Jefferson Steele's adventures as a rock 'n' roll photographer.

Carroll

Arts in Education	\$850
Community Arts Development	\$97,014
Grants for Organizations	\$46,092
Individual Artist Awards	\$7,000
Maryland Touring Grant	\$4,500
Maryland Traditions	\$4,000

CARROLL TOTAL \$159,456

Cecil

Community Arts Development	\$94,336
Individual Artist Awards	\$3,000
Maryland Traditions	\$1,134

CECIL TOTAL \$98,470

Charles

Community Arts Development	\$96,334
Grants for Organizations	\$7,750
Maryland Traditions	\$200

CHARLES TOTAL \$104,284

Dorchester

Community Arts Development	\$91,510
Maryland Traditions	\$2,054

DORCHESTER TOTAL \$93,564

Frederick

Arts in Education	\$2,700
Community Arts Development	\$99,971
Grants for Organizations	\$159,760
Individual Artist Awards	\$1,000
Maryland Traditions	\$4,000

FREDERICK TOTAL \$267,431

Garrett

Community Arts Development	\$91,400
Grants for Organizations	\$19,322
Maryland Touring Grant	\$1,750

GARRETT TOTAL \$112,472

Harford

Arts & Entertainment Technical Assistance	\$4,250
Arts in Education	\$1,250
Community Arts Development	\$100,340
Grants for Organizations	\$29,200
Individual Artist Awards	\$3,000
Maryland Touring Grant	\$3,500

HARFORD TOTAL \$141,540



Annapolis Shakespeare Company presents *The Schemings of Scapin*, photo by Joshua McKerrow; Downtown Easton during the 2013 Waterfowl Festival; Toot Uncommon Flutes perform at the Holiday Musical in the Kaylor Atrium of the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts.

Howard

Arts in Education	\$16,435
Community Arts Development	\$102,417
Grants for Organizations	\$146,197
Individual Artist Awards	\$10,000

HOWARD TOTAL \$275,049

Kent

Community Arts Development	\$91,005
Grants for Organizations	\$29,223
Individual Artist Awards	\$1,000
Maryland Touring Grant	\$600

KENT TOTAL \$121,828

Montgomery

Arts in Education	\$280,076
Community Arts Development	\$131,239
Grants for Organizations	\$2,427,680
Individual Artist Awards	\$73,000
Maryland Touring Grant	\$7,000
Maryland Traditions	\$62,797

MONTGOMERY TOTAL \$2,981,792

Prince George's

Arts & Entertainment Technical Assistance	\$2,500
Arts in Education	\$6,100
Community Arts Development	\$126,189
Grants for Organizations	\$805,207
Individual Artist Awards	\$35,000
Maryland Touring Grant	\$7,000
Maryland Traditions	\$2,100

PRINCE GEORGE'S TOTAL \$984,096

Queen Anne's

Community Arts Development	\$92,166
Grants for Organizations	\$11,300

QUEEN ANNE'S TOTAL \$103,466

Saint Mary's

Community Arts Development	\$94,634
Grants for Organizations	\$36,284
Individual Artist Awards	\$3,000

SAINT MARY'S TOTAL \$133,918



Concerning Proximity, choreography by Maria Bauman and danced by Lynne Price and Sarah Joy Stallsmith (pictured) at The Collective's Baltimore Dance Invitational at Theatre Project, photo by Matt Roth; A performance at Prince George's Community College's Bluebird Festival; Lumina Studio Theatre performs "Kabuki Coriolanus," David Minton's adaption of William Shakespeare's *Coriolanus*, photo by Linda Parker.

Somerset

Community Arts Development	\$91,253
Grants for Organizations	\$2,000
Maryland Traditions	\$4,000
SOMERSET TOTAL	\$97,253

Talbot

Arts in Education	\$11,655
Community Arts Development	\$91,737
Grants for Organizations	\$292,832
Individual Artist Awards	\$1,000
Maryland Traditions	\$8,150
TALBOT TOTAL	\$405,374

Washington

Community Arts Development	\$96,277
Grants for Organizations	\$174,160
Maryland Traditions	\$2,000
Public Art Program	\$5,000
WASHINGTON TOTAL	\$277,437

Wicomico

Community Arts Development	\$94,293
Grants for Organizations	\$94,319
Individual Artist Awards	\$3,000
Maryland Traditions	\$25,000
WICOMICO TOTAL	\$216,612

Worcester

Arts & Entertainment Technical Assistance	\$2,251
Community Arts Development	\$92,288
Grants for Organizations	\$8,000
WORCESTER TOTAL	\$102,539



Everyman Theatre's marquee, photo by ClintonBPhotography; Members of South Broadway Baptist Church Choir perform at *That Same Spirit! Eastern Carolina Native American Gospel Music Alive in Baltimore City*; Facing page: Museum supporters enjoying the Baltimore Museum of Industry's Annual Bull and Oyster Roast; Yvonne Erickson and Erica Lauren McLaughlin in *A Young Lady of Property* presented by Rep Stage, photo by Stan Barouh; Jayamangala dancers practicing traditional Indian classical dance.

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MARYLAND STATE ARTS COUNCIL

175 West Ostend Street, Suite E
Baltimore, Maryland 21230



Paul Diem as "The Accordionist" in Georgi Gospodinov's *The Apocalypse Comes at 6pm* at Single Carrot Theatre, photo by Britt Olsen-Ecker.

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MARYLAND STATE
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